

9/11/01 - Where were you?

I was just a freshman in high school. I was in my "Intro to Keyboarding" class. My teacher turned on the television and it seemed the newscasters were in a scramble or panic. I remember asking the junior sitting next to me what was going on. She told me that something had happened to the World Trade Centers. At that time I hadn't heard of them before, and I asked what they were. Then the news was showing replays and live coverage. It was devastating to watch all of that happen before my own eyes.

Airman Jacey Harvey
15th Communications Squadron

I was stationed in Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. It was early in the morning when I was on my way to work. I lived about 10 minutes away from my work building. It took me over an hour to get to work. I was on a sport motorcycle and was wondering why the traffic was so backed up to get on base. When I got to the gate the guard asked me a few questions and checked my identification card. I thought a major exercise was going on. I got to my work building and the lower parking lot was sealed off. After parking in the distant area everyone else parked, I walked in wondering what was going on.

The work center was a zoo with people running all over the place and high-ranking officials everywhere. I went to my relieving section and asked someone what the commotion was all about. The Airman told me that both Trade Centers were destroyed. I ran to the nearest TV with the news on and saw the chaos forming.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Tacoronte
324th Intelligence Squadron

Before I joined the Air Force, my wife and I were living in Nara, Japan as members of the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program. It was the middle of the night, and we were sound asleep. The phone rang, and it was an American friend of ours who also lived in Japan. He told us to turn on the TV. Even in Japan, it didn't matter which channel. The images that greeted us ensured our night's sleep was over.

1st Lt. Matthew Spomer
26th Air Intelligence Squadron

I was on alert with the U.S. Strategic Command Airborne Command Post, in the middle of a nuclear command and control exercise. When the two planes hit the towers, we (the battlestaff) knew the exercise was over, and a new war had begun.

The prevailing memory of that day, though, was Air Force One flying into Offutt (where I was on alert) and parking 200 feet from our alert facility. Instead of the normal 18-vehicle convoy, the President's convoy was merely two security forces cruisers, and the USSTRATCOM commander's staff car. That day in the Command Center the president looked at everyone in the Command Center, and said, "You folks are going to be busy soon, and you'll make the country proud."

Maj. Cory Miller
Pacific Air Forces

At that particular time in my life I was in college in Virginia Beach near one of the bases out there. I had early morning classes



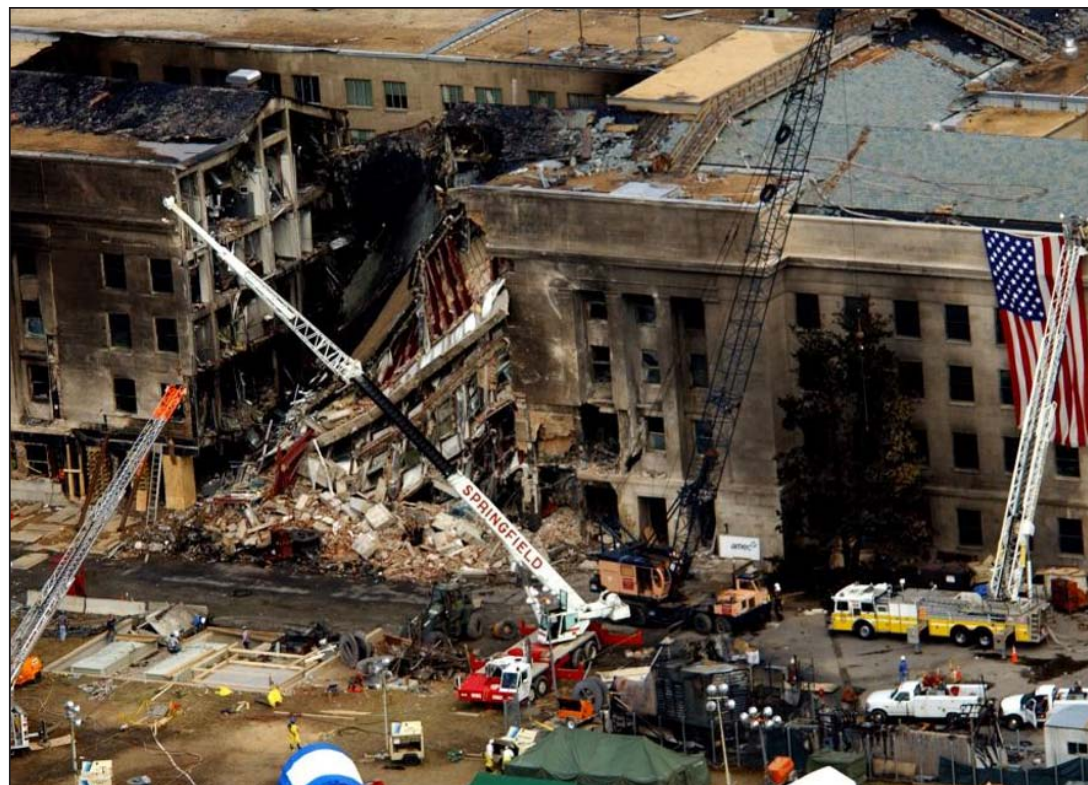
Courtesy photo

and managed to get to school early for a change. While I was preparing myself for class I was watching the news and saw the breaking news for the day.

I had seen the reporter saying that the twin towers had been struck. I thought it was a preview for a movie or something because things like that just didn't happen in America. I thought we were untouchable, too strong, almost like superman.

While all those thoughts were running through my mind I heard jets flying over my head instantly. It was the end of the world I thought and prayed my last prayer. Right in the middle of my prayer the other tower had been struck. All I could do was watch in terror people ending their lives because they were stuck in the building and didn't want to suffer knowing their end.

Airman 1st Class Lequane Davis
15th Civil Engineer Squadron



Courtesy photo

destruction. Soon after the second plane hit. We all left and reported to our duty sections for further instructions assuming that a terrorist attack had happened.

Tech. Sgt. Phillip Patterson
735th Air Mobility Squadron

I was stationed at Dyess AFB, Texas on 9-11-01. I was posting technical order changes when the training manager came into our office and said a plane crashed into the World Trade Center. Of course we all flocked to the nearest TV and stayed glued to CNN for the remainder of the day. I personally remember feeling many different emotions running through me. I felt a great sadness as if I had an anchor sitting on my chest plus I felt helpless as we listened to the news when they were trying to locate missing airliners like Flt 93. I also felt very sad for the families and at the same time, like many others, felt anger and "chomped at the bit" at the chance to crank up our B-1 bombers sitting outside and go make a difference in the name of freedom.

Master Sgt. Dave Varkony
735th Air Mobility Squadron

I was deployed at Prince Sultan Air Base Combined Air Operations Center (the nerve center for all military operations within the Middle East to include Afghanistan), Saudi Arabia and witnessed everything via CNN. It was very surreal to be stationed on the pointy end of the spear, but witness your homeland being attacked.

Maj. Brian Martin
65th Airlift Squadron

I was assigned to the Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency at the time. I arrived at work early that day because I had a couple of appointments that morning for work. General Jumper just became the new CSAF, and my first appointment was to install a new computer and new laptop at his quarters. I was getting ready to leave with my supervisor and head on over to the house on Ft. Myers. Before going over to the CSAF's quarters I had to run by the MPF on the 5th floor, A-wing, corridor 3, which was right down the hall from where the plane impacted.

I told my supervisor that I had

Sept. 11 is my birthday, that morning I received a call from my sister who lives on the island of Tenerife, and expected to hear the usual "Happy Birthday" from her, after all, it was only 4:30 a.m. here in Hawaii. Instead I heard her sobbing and having a hard time getting any coherent words out, she finally managed to say: turn on the TV.

My husband and I could not believe what we saw; it's still hard to imagine that anyone would commit such horrible acts. We did manage to get to work on Hickam that day; however I do not remember any real work being accomplished that day.

Dagmar Oato
15th Civil Engineer Squadron

I was in a computer class at Dover AFB, someone came in and said a plane hit one of the towers. The whole class was in disbelief. We turned the TV on and saw the

to go the MPF and that I would meet him over at the CSAF quarters shortly after he got there. I ran up to MPF and did what I had to do in about 15 minutes, and I quickly rushed out to my vehicle. As I was leaving the plane must as flew right over my head because I was driving in the direction where the plane came in, but I didn't notice anything. When I got to the CSAF quarters I walked in and noticed that everyone was watching the news on a little TV. I didn't think nothing of it until someone had told me what had just happened. I couldn't believe it.

Staff Sgt. La'akea Young
15th Communications Squadron

After five years, how do you think the terrorist attacks have impacted our country?

"The attacks were designed to hurt the economy and the morale of the nation. Instead, it helped and strengthened. Just listen to Toby Keith's song, "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American)" and Darryl Worley's song, "Have You Forgotten?" Words and music say it all."

Army Sgt. Jeanine Ling
Courier, Defense Courier Service Honolulu

"The terrorist impact on our country had a unifying effect on our country for the first 2 years and though at times we forget I think gentle reminders need to be put out there to maintain our vigilance and duty to our country. It only takes one image from that day and it brings it back to me like it was yesterday. I fear that many generations from now that they'll turn 9-11 into a four-day weekend with malls and car dealerships having marketing pitches for the Federal holiday."

Capt. Roger Bermea
PACAF

"Before 9/11 there was no Global War on Terror, but there should have been. Now, sadly, I believe many people - including legislators - have forgotten. People have forgotten who it was who attacked us, the planning involved and the governments of other nations linked to the attacks. Terrorism is still a huge concern worldwide. When I travel, I share the frustration others have at having to undergo additional security measures from taking off my shoes to removing all liquids and pastes from my carryon luggage, but I know why it's necessary and happily comply."

Tech. Sgt. Chad Cornelius
15th Contracting Squadron

I think the attacks have changed a lot of things in our country. The way we travel and where we travel too and the feeling of having to look over your shoulder everywhere you go. And when something like that happens, you never forget. It's something that's cemented in time and in the memories of those who were there to experience it.

Senior Airman Tracie Anlage
PACAF

Crossword Puzzle: Airmen of Note Part 2

By Capt Tony Wickman

71st Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Danger to AF planes
4. ___ Afraid of Virginia Woolf
7. Desperate Housewives' Longoria
10. MO rap star
12. Snakelike fish
13. Auto manufacturer with slogan, "born from jets"
15. Vent
16. Boy
17. Symbol of willful corporate fraud and corruption
19. Expire
20. Perform
21. Ice cream holder
22. General Wilbur ___; TAC commander and father of TQM
25. Retaliate
27. Golf prop
28. Way to shrink the military, in brief
29. Engraves
32. Francis ____; 3rd leading USAF ace and WWII POW
37. Cain TV movie The Perfect Husband: The ___ Peterson Story
38. Draft
39. Precipitation
40. Brig Gen William ___; proponent for separate AF
43. Token of infamy
45. Epoch
46. NCOIC's boss

47. Robinson ___; Korean War ace, won first AF Cross, Vietnam POW
51. General Carl ___; first CSAF
54. Great Lake
55. O-1s
56. CENTCOM danger
58. Ursa ___
60. V for Vendetta actor Stephen
61. Power type
63. iPod type
64. Cleo killer
65. George ___; first American military aviator to lose life
66. Time Zone at GMT-0330
67. Sixth sense?
68. No ___, ands or buts

DOWN

1. Commercial publicity piece
2. Home to NHL broadcasts
3. Color
4. George ___; AF ace, credited with 4 kills on Dec 7, 1941
5. 1995 Pacino film
6. Ancient
7. Compass dir.
8. Medal of Honor recipient Lt. Col Leon ___
9. Hall of Fame's Hammerin' Hank
10. Head movement
11. Saga
14. Richard ___; top American WWII ace, MOH recipient
18. Formerly
20. Pilots with 5+ kills
23. Code

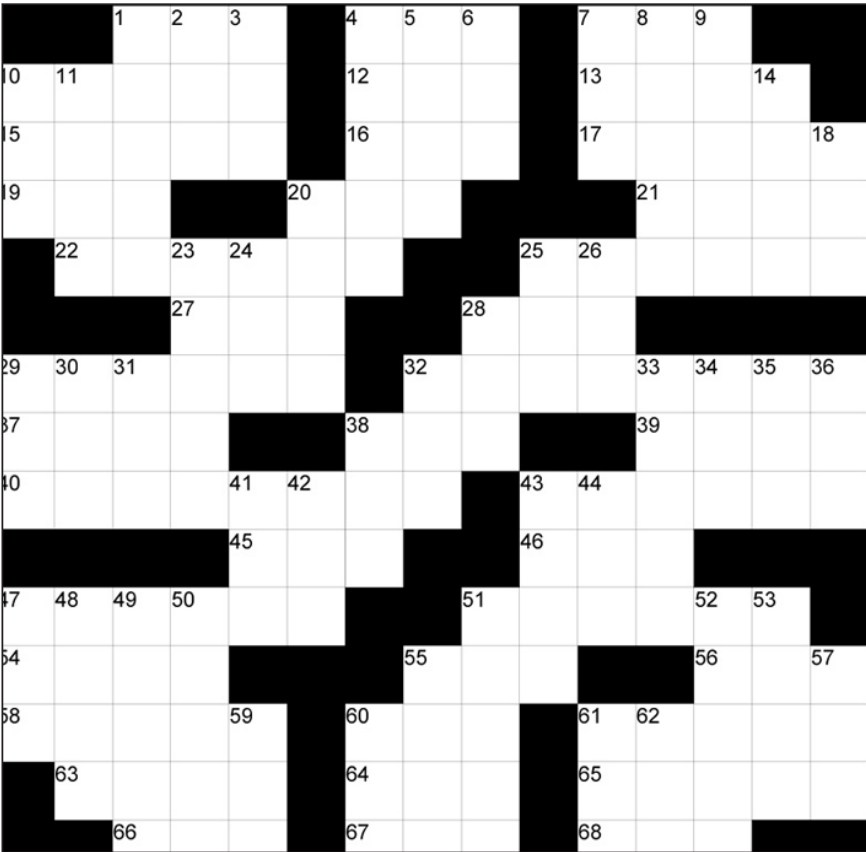
24. Shoe size
25. Aircraft mishap result?
26. Flying method, in brief
28. Music genre
29. Hardwood tree
30. ___ chi; Chinese martial arts
31. AF org. know for "shoot, move, communicate"
32. Lady friend
33. Susan on All My Children
34. Droop
35. Sex and the City actress Cattrall
36. 1995 movie Devil ___ _ Blue Dress
38. Mil. pay entitlement
41. 1969-97 show ___ Haw
42. Mistake
43. Drenches in a liquid
44. Dancing with the Stars' Carrere
47. Type of sleep
48. Middle East country

49. Lance ___; MOH recipient for efforts as Vietnam POW
50. Dodge cars
51. Col (Dr.) John ___; father of jet and auto safety

52. Plows
53. Ambition
55. Minus
57. Arid

59. Nonsense
60. 1979 film Norma ___
61. Winter sport equipment
62. Operation begun Oct. 7, 2001

See SOLUTION, B3



CHAPEL			
<i>Editor's note: For more information on Base Chapel services or for prayer requests call the Chapel Center at 449-1754 or Nelles Chapel at 449-6562.</i>			
PROTESTANT Nelles Chapel Sunday Contemporary Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday Gospel Worship 11:15 a.m. Sunday Praise Gathering 5:30 p.m. Chapel Center Sunday Traditional 8:30 a.m.	JEWISH Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor – 473-0050 Jewish Lay Leader Mr. David Bender 527-5877 Naval Station Chapel – 473-3971 ORTHODOX For more information, call 438-6687	CATHOLIC Nelles Chapel Weekday Mass 11:30 a.m. Saturday Confessions 4:15 p.m. Saturday Mass 5 p.m. Chapel Center Sunday Mass 10 a.m.	ISLAMIC Friday Congregational Service (1935 Aleo Place, Punahou) 1 p.m. Muslim Association of Hawaii 947-6263 BUDDHIST Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin A Shin Buddhist Temple – 536-7044

SUDOKU

Puzzle created by
Staff Sgt. Sarah Kinsman
For solution, see **SUDOKU, B4**

			8	4		6	7	
					6			
	6	4			3		2	9
1				5	9	8		7
		3	7			4		
	8	7		3				5
	1					9	5	
5	3	9	2	1				
		6			7	3		

AT THE MOVIES

Memorial Theater 448-2297 • CLOSED Monday and Tuesday

Today, Saturday and Thursday 7 p.m.

The Ant Bully – A 10-year old boy embarks on a remarkable journey. New in town, friendless and tormented by a neighborhood bully, young Lucas Nickle has been taking out his frustration on the innocent ant hill in his yard. But one day the ants retaliate. Using a magic potion, they shrink Lucas down to ant size and sentence him to live like an ant in their colony. In this strange, new world, Lucas will learn important lessons about friendship, get a whole new perspective on life and ultimately find the courage to stand up for himself. Starring Julia Roberts and Nicolas Cage. Rated PG for some mild rude humor and action.



Sunday and Wednesday 7 p.m.

Miami Vice – Tubbs is urbane and dead smart. He lives with Bronx-born intel analyst

Trudy, as they work undercover transporting drug loads into south Florida to identify a group responsible for three murders. Crockett is charismatic and flirtatious until-while undercover working with the supplier of the South Florida group – he gets romantically entangled with Isabella, the Chinese-Cuban wife of an arms and drugs traf-ficker. Starring Colin Farrell and Jamie Foxx. Rated R for strong violence, language and some sexual content.



SOLUTION, From B2

	F	O	D		W	H	O		E	V	A						
N	E	L	L		E	E	L		S	A	A	B					
O	P	I	N	E		L	A	D		E	N	R	O	N			
D	I	E			A	C	T			C	O	N	E				
	C	R	E	E	C	H				A	V	E	N	G	E		
			T	E	E				R	I	F						
E	T	C	H	E	S			G	A	B	R	E	S	K	I		
L	A	C	I				T	A	P				R	A	I	N	
M	I	T	C	H	E	L				S	T	I	G	M	A		
						E	R	A			O	I	C				
R	I	S	N	E	R				S	P	A	A	T	Z			
E	R	I	E						L	T	S				I	E	D
M	A	J	O	R				R	E	A			S	O	L	A	R
	N	A	N	O				A	S	P			K	E	L	L	Y
		N	S	T				E	S	P			I	F	S		

Comic strip “Jenny” shows life of military spouse

By Kirsten Tacker
Kukini Photojournalist

A cartoonist by profession, Julie Negron created her comic strip “Jenny” from being downright frustrated with her most recent permanent change of station to Okinawa Air Base, Japan, in Nov. 2004.

Ms. Negron’s comic strip follows the escapades of an Air Force spouse hankering to be brave and triumphant over the trials of a military lifestyle. It is the only comic strip that exists about life as a military spouse.

“I’m an Air Force brat with at least nine moves by age nine and many more after that,” said Ms. Negron. “I’m no stranger to this nomadic lifestyle. Okinawa was our fourth PCS in five and half years of marriage.”

Three of those moves occurred in the first year and a half of their marriage.

“While checking out from our previous base, my medical records got lost,” said Ms. Negron. “The lady who lost them said she didn’t have to talk to me, because I was just the spouse. I was flabbergasted and had no idea what to do.”

Unfortunately, that wasn’t the only time during Ms. Negron’s PCS from her previous base to Okinawa that her hands felt tied because she was considered “just the spouse.”

This was the boiling point where Ms. Negron recognized she needed an outlet for her frustration.

“So I sat down one day, drew the very first “Jenny” and started a notebook of ideas for her life as a new spouse,” said Ms. Negron. “It con-

sisted of nothing political or anything angry, just stuff that happens with a little bit of irony and a humorous twist.”

Using all of her own stories including those she’d heard from other spouses over the years, her mom, sister-in-law and friends.

The development of “Jenny” began in Feb. 2005, when Ms. Negron devoted every waking moment to the project. She couldn’t even hold a conversation because she was constantly writing “Jenny” episodes in her mind.

“Marketing of the strip began that summer and I got the first positive nod from Stars & Stripes in October,” said Ms. Negron.

“Jenny” appeared for the first time on Nov. 6, 2005. It now runs every Sunday in the Stars & Stripes and weekly in several military installation publications and in monthly spouses club newsletters.

What makes Ms. Negron continue to write “Jenny” and give her talents away for free?

“The response from “Jenny’s” readers has been so positive that I don’t see any reason to stop,” said Ms. Negron. “The readers share their experience with me while laughing at theirs. I think it makes it easier for them to see the lighter side of what’s happening in their own lives and maybe it helps those who are holding down the home front stay a little saner.”

People holding down the home front have sent Ms. Negron many notes, thanking her for making them laugh.

“It’s my honor and pleasure to put a chuckle into someone’s day,” said Ms. Negron. “That



Courtesy photo
Julie Negron, creator of the Jenny comic strip, sketches a new strip. Ms. Negron’s comic strip adds a humorous twist to the trials that come with being a military spouse.

means I am doing my job. I see humor in everything. So if it happens to a spouse and I hear about it, chances are it’ll happen to Jenny or one of her friends. If it happens to me, you can be sure it’ll happen to Jenny.”

Inspirations drawn from real lives of contributors and the cartoonist, Jenny’s experiences reflect the humor, moxie and absolute determi-

nation necessary to be the spouse of an active duty military member.

“There is a quote that says, ‘Comedy is tragedy plus time’,” said Ms. Negron. It’s true. Ask any spouse. That’s all I can think of except to say if you see a spouse today, thank them for their service to our country,” concluded Ms. Negron. “Have a laugh filled day.”

SUDOKU, From B3

2	9	1	8	4	5	6	7	3
3	7	5	9	2	6	1	8	4
8	6	4	1	7	3	5	2	9
1	4	2	6	5	9	8	3	7
6	5	3	7	8	2	4	9	1
9	8	7	4	3	1	2	6	5
7	1	8	3	6	4	9	5	2
5	3	9	2	1	8	7	4	6
4	2	6	5	9	7	3	1	8

Jenny

What’s more important

YOU’RE STILL IN YOUR JAMMIES?? DON’T YOU KNOW WHAT’S GOING ON? GET DRESSED!

WHAT? DID THE HURRICANE CAUSE A LOT OF DAMAGE? A FLOOD? EVACUATION?

OH...THAT! WE’LL... THIS IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT!

THERE’S VERY LITTLE DAMAGE FROM THE STORM. THE SPOUSES’ GROUP IS HAVING A “CLEAN-UP PARTY” LATER. WANNA GO?

OKAY, BUT WHAT’S THE BIG EMERGENCY..?

A NEW SPOUSE IS MOVING IN ACROSS THE STREET AND YOU’VE GOT THE BEST WINDOWS FOR SPYING.

A comic strip about life as a military spouse.
Copyright Julie L. Negron

Parasailing - Fun for the whole family

**By Lance Cpl.
Ryan Trevino**

Kaneohe Marine Corps Base
- Hawaii

Oahu's Waikiki Beach is jam packed with businesses, some of which claim to offer a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience what Hawaii is all about. From guided hikes up Diamond Head to surfing lessons for tourists hailing from land-locked states, everyone is selling something.

Although the view from atop Diamond Head is world renowned and the waves at Waikiki Beach are considered by many surfers to be some of the best in the world, according to some, only one experience can give you a solid serving of both the scenery and the seas off Oahu's coast - parasailing.

There are two companies that offer this, and they are both located in Waikiki - Hawaiian Parasail and X-Treme Parasail.

Parasailing is a tourist favorite on the island, according to boat crewman Tony SuSuico, and it's also an experience that many servicemembers stationed on Oahu love to partake in as well.

"I see Marines come out here all the time," said SuSuico, a native of Guam who has been crewing a parasailing boat for more than two years now. "They love doing this stuff. They

come out here every weekend."

During their parasailing experience, enthusiasts fly the skies of Waikiki from up to 800 feet above the water, pulled by boat that cuts through sun-drenched waters.

For those patrons seeking more of a family experience, tandem rides are available where up to three people can parasail at the same time.

Hawaiian Parasail and X-Treme Parasail boats depart daily, every hour on the hour, from "Kewalo Basin, to take excited passengers out to sea for the ride of their life. The actual time spent up in the air lasts up to 10 minutes for a regular ride and approximately 15 minutes for an extended ride.

Afraid of water? No need to fret. X-Treme Parasail utilizes special wench boats that allow the rider to start their ride from aboard the boat and land right back on the deck after the ride is complete. But, if getting drenched is part of the riders plan, boat captains can accommodate that, too. If the passenger requests, the captain will slow the boat down during the ride causing the rider or riders to slowly glide from the sky straight into the crystal-clear water. After a brief dip, the boat speeds up and the now, wet passengers, are quickly pulled back up.

"It was awesome," said



Photo by Marine Lance Cpl. Ryan Trevino

Tony SuSuico, boat crewman for X-Treme Parasail, throws a "shaka" to parasailers, and they reply with the same. During their parasailing adventure, riders have the option to be "dipped" into the water upon returning to the boat, or they can opt for a dry landing if they don't want to get wet.

Joe Pippin, a tourist from Centerville, Md., after completing his parasail experience. "I liked getting dunked in the water the best."

"It's definitely worth doing again and again and again," said Shari Prater, a

tourist from San Jose, Calif., who was obviously thrilled with her ride.

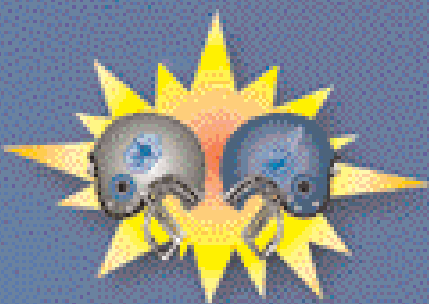
The two parasail companies offer three different packages to customers. For approximately \$40, a rider can parasail for about 10

minutes and for up to 15 minutes for \$80. If a patron is unsure as to whether or not he or she wants to go up the first time and would rather watch, they can go along for the boat ride for \$30. Both companies also

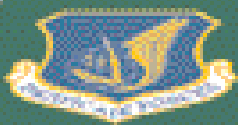
offer a discount on packages to military members and their families who have a valid ID card.

For more information on parasailing and other activities while in Waikiki, visit www.hawaiiactivities.com.

Team Hickam Pick ‘Em



Team Roster	Atlanta vs. Carolina	Baltimore vs. Tampa Bay	Buffalo vs. New England	Chicago vs. Green Bay	Dallas vs. Jack-sonville	San Francisco vs. Arizona	Indianapo-lis vs. NY Giants	Minnesota vs. Washington	Weekly/ To Date Statistics
Col. J.J. Torres 15th AW/CC	Carolina	Baltimore	New England	Green Bay	Dallas	Arizona	Indianapolis	Washington	N/A
Lt. Col. Lewis Carlisle 352nd IOS/CC	Carolina	Baltimore	New England	Chicago	Dallas	Arizona	Indianapolis	Washington	N/A
Capt. Brian Moritz 535th AS	Carolina	Tampa Bay	New England	Chicago	Dallas	Arizona	NY Giants	Washington	N/A
CMSgt. Robert Wyman 692nd IG	Carolina	Baltimore	New England	Chicago	Jacksonville	Arizona	NY Giants	Minnesota	N/A
TSgt. Youlanda Grant 15th AW/CCA	Carolina	Baltimore	New England	Chicago	Dallas	Arizona	Indianapolis	Washington	N/A
SrA Jeff Galdikas 15th CES	Carolina	Tampa Bay	New England	Chicago	Dallas	Arizona	Indianapolis	Washington	N/A



TEAM HICKAM NFL CHALLENGE

